Press Release



Mid-range IRB 360 FlexPicker™ completes ABB picking robot family now with six variants

With six variants, the IRB 360 FlexPicker range is more flexible, robust and suits a wider range of applications than ever before.

December 16, 2013

- New variant: IRB 360-6 for multiple product packing with 6 kg payload, 1600 mm reach and 460 mm vertical stroke
- Complete family: Multiple variants with payloads from 1 kg to 8 kg and reaches of 800 to 1600 mm
- Improved arm system: Additional stainless parts, reinforced components, robust bearings and enlarged joint sockets
- FlexPicker™ family strengths: More compact, short cycle times, high throughput and built for washdown environment

For nearly 15 years, ABB's IRB 360 FlexPicker has been the leader in state-of-the-art high speed robotic picking and packing technology. Compared to conventional hard automation, the IRB 360 offers much greater flexibility in a compact footprint while maintaining accuracy and high payloads.

With the introduction of the IRB 360-6, the lastest robot to be added to the IRB 360 family, ABB has delivered a FlexPicker with a reach of 1600 mm and a mid-range payload of 6 kg. The sacrifice of a small amount of payload versus the 8 kg FlexPicker has resulted in a long reach for applications in which conveyors must be far apart or other environmental factors require long distances between pick and place movements.

The IRB 360 family now includes variants with payloads of 1 kg, 3 kg, 6 kg and 8 kg and reaches of 800 mm, 1130 mm and 1600 mm—meaning there is an IRB 360 for almost every need. Featuring outstanding motion control, short cycle times, and precision accuracy, an IRB 360 can operate at very high speeds in anything from narrow to wide spaces with very tight tolerances. Every FlexPicker also benefits from a re-engineered tool flange which can accommodate larger grippers, allowing for efficient handling of flow wrapped products at high speeds from an indexing belt.

"We're proud to complete the FlexPicker family and maintain our lead in the robotic picking and packing market," says Klas Bengtsson, ABB Product Manager for Picking, Packing and Palletizing. "Across the entire IRB 360 range we can now offer solutions for the shortest, fastest and lightest tasks all the way up to heavy, multiple product picking operations."

The IRB 360 family is also designed to work in the harshest washdown environments in which sanitary design is of the utmost importance, such as meat and dairy applications. An option with all-stainless steel parts is IP69K validated so that it can be washed down with industrial detergents and high pressure hot water. The robot is also designed with smooth, rinse-off surfaces, as well as lubricant free joints that are resistant to most corrosives.

Every IRB 360 can be easily set up with ABB's PickMaster™ software—which has evolved into an invaluable tool for integrators and users of the robot. Using PickMaster, an entire line can be developed, simulated and programmed in less than a day leaving only the installation of the robots and associated equipment as the final step.

All ABB Robotics' products are fully supported by the ABB Robotics' global sales and service organization in 53 countries and over 100 locations.

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Further information for editors:

ABB (www.abb.com) is a leader in power and automation technologies that enable utility and industry customers to improve their performance while lowering environmental impact. The ABB Group of companies operates in around 100 countries and employs about 145,000 people.

ABB Robotics is a leading supplier of industrial robots - also providing robot software, peripheral equipment, modular manufacturing cells and service for tasks such as welding, handling, assembly, painting and finishing, picking, packing, palletizing and machine tending. Key markets include automotive, plastics, metal fabrication, foundry, electronics, machine tools, pharmaceutical and food and beverage industries. A strong solutions focus helps manufacturers improve productivity, product quality and worker safety. ABB has installed more than 200,000 robots worldwide.

Visit www.abb.com/robotics for further information.

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